

The Tucson

September/October 2021



A publication dedicated to promoting the human/animal bond and raising awareness of shelter and rescue animals.

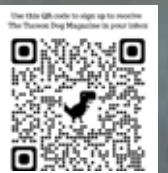
Cover Story:
**SOLDIER'S
BEST FRIEND,**
HELPING VETERANS LIVE
BETTER LIVES WITH THE
SUPPORT OF FURRY FRIEND

Features:

Growing Number of Pets in
Tucson with Valley Fever,
but Help is on the Way!

Tortoise Adoption
and Foster Program

El Tour de Tucson
and Friends of PACC,
Saddling up for a
Good Cause



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HSSAZ.org
/THRIFT**

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adoptable pets and shop tax-free
merchandise at Park Place Mall and at
HSSA Main Campus at 635 W Roger Road.**



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Coupon good through October 31, 2021.



NEW ITEMS DAILY

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
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| Art Work | Pots & Pans |
| Bedroom Sets | Nic/Naks |
| Dining Sets | Linens |
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| Ceramics | Lamps |
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The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dear Friends,

This edition of the Tucson Dog is bittersweet for me. First because it will be my last as the Owner/Publisher of the publication. Second, because the publication will have a new Owner/Publisher whom I am very close to and who loves it as much as I do. Heather McShea began as a friend to me and roommate back in 2017 when I came to Tucson to start the publication. As our friendship grew along with her love for the magazine and our mission, she joined our team as a salesperson and then Sales Manager. She also worked side-by-side with me to put on our massive adopt-a-thon events, WOOFstock and Dogtoberfest and she was amazing! I often teased her that she could do it without me!

When I realized it was time for me to pass the baton on to someone else, it was important for me to find the right person. Not only someone who was business savvy and could run it but someone who believed in our mission to promote the human-animal bond and to raise awareness of shelter and rescue animals. Heather embodies all of that and more! I know she will guard it and care for it like I would and because of our close friendship, she reminded me that I was not going anywhere and would still be there to help her along the way which I am happy to do although I know she doesn't really need me.

With that said, I want you to know that it has been my extreme pleasure and honor to be a part of the community in Tucson and to be able to meet so many of you. I hope to be visiting there to see you now and then but for now, I am back home in Prescott with my two dogs, Gracie and Andy and my beloved horse, Miss Pauleena which makes me very happy!

I would like to ask for your support as it has been a very tough year and a half with COVID, but we have been able to make it through because of the support of our advertisers and sponsors. And although we have not been able to put on our big adoption events, Heather has been working on some smaller events so that we can continue to help animals and you will hear about them in this issue. She is already working on so many things to bring us back into full swing so I know The Tucson Dog will continue to help animals in need and those who care for and love them for many years to come.

Please continue to support the magazine by way of your readership and advertising and sponsoring events if you have a business. We are also asking for donations if you can to help us with expenses we have incurred during COVID to keep the publication out there and to help build it back to what it was pre-COVID, including our mega adoption events where many dogs get adopted and rescue and shelter groups get the word out about who they are and all the great work they do to help animals.

Thank you so much for continuing to support us and a big thank you to all of our staff for making The Tucson Dog the very best it can be with incredible, timely stories and wonderful relationships we have built over the years. It warms my heart to know that it will be in good hands with Heather and our staff who will care and protect it for years to come.

With love and admiration to you all,

Ann

Letters to the Editor

Donations

Photo by Maudene Fruehwirth

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS to The Tucson Dog during these trying times. Your donation will help us to continue serving our community by continuing to promote local shelters and rescues (at no cost to them), helping homeless pets find homes, provide local resources and events and continue to share heartwarming stories about local people who give their lives to saving animals and animals saving humans.

Please send donations and your story, if you'd like to share, to:
The Tucson Dog Magazine
5151 E Broadway Blvd Ste 1600, Tucson, AZ 85711
Or call 928-420-4407

THANK YOU
MICHAEL & MAUDENE

You are THE special type of people who save lives and make the world a better place. Knowing that we are in a time of financial difficulty, your donation is extra special to us.

Letter from our generous Donors

"THANK YOU to THE TUCSON DOG Magazine for helping us homeless animals find our forever homes!"

*Clooney 4 yrs old
Adopted from HSSA at 3 yrs old*

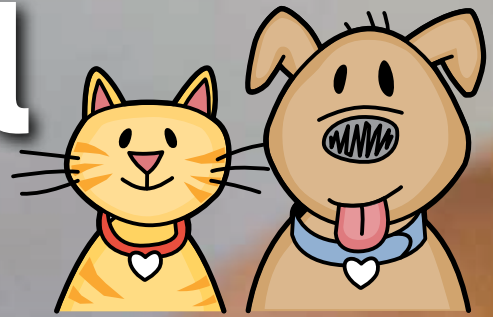
*Otto 14 yrs old
Adopted from Happy Tails
Dachshund Rescue at 3 yrs old*

As you can see they have become good friends and Otto's energy and love got us through the pandemic.

Maudene and Michael Fruehwirth



Pima Animal Care Center



takes in 50-100 pets each day!

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The Tucson DOG

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On the Cover

Daniel and Deco

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COVER STORY

Soldiers Best Friend

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Growing Number
of Pets in Tucson
with Valley Fever,
but Help is on
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Tortoise Adoption
and Foster Program



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The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



Ann Herrington - Publisher/Editor - Ann began working in animal welfare in 1997 when she adopted a shelter dog named Harley who changed the direction of her life. She utilized her experience working in the media and advertising for many years to help shelter animals through education and off-site adoption events. In 2008, she founded the first of 4 magazines, The Prescott Dog. She continues to dedicate her life to helping rescue and shelter animals through awareness, education, and adoptions. Email: ann@thetucsondog.com



Heather McShea - Sales Manager - Heather is the owner of a local Home Health Care company and often volunteers in helping find new homes for the pets of her hospice patients. She has three rescue dogs of her own but has a constant flow of neighbor dogs stopping by all the time; She calls her house the neighborhood dog park. Heather's love of our most vulnerable populations has lead her to Home Health Care and helping all animals in need. Email: heather@thetucsondog.com



Rebecca West - Staff Writer - Rebecca is a freelance writer and editor for print and digital who loves to travel the globe. A life-long pet owner, she adores animals and has taken part in fostering dogs for military members during deployment. She has given many rescued and surrendered dogs the forever home they always wanted, and her two favorite canine quotes are, "Be the kind of person your dog thinks you are," and "My dog rescued me." Email: nomadshighway@gmail.com



Bonnie Craig - Staff Writer - Bonnie lives with three dogs, a cat, nine chickens, and a Betta fish. As well as writing, she enjoys painting and playing music. She is passionate about the natural world and loves gardening, botanizing, hiking, and camping. Most evenings she can be found in the garden listening to the chickens and playing endless games of fetch with a certain ball-obsessed border collie. Email: bonniehooligan@yahoo.com



Emily Dieckman - Staff Writer - Emily loves to tell stories - especially about animals. While she impatiently looks forward to living in an apartment that allows dogs, she fills her time with writing, reading, cooking and petting other people's dogs. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from California State University, Fullerton, and her writing has appeared in several magazines and newspapers. Email: emily.dieckman@gmail.com



Jeremy Brown- Staff Writer - An animal lover for life, Jeremy has been a dog trainer for over 16 years. As the Area Trainer for Petsmart he trained dog trainers for years and opened The Complete Canine 7 years ago. A therapy dog evaluator for years, he founded Kienrnan's Kindness, a local therapy group that spreads kindness and also trains the Pima County Sheriff Therapy dog program. A Graduate from Indiana University and Applied Animal Behavior from University of Washington. He has four dogs; Archie, Lacey, Louis and Sabine, with the first two being therapy dogs.



Gracie - Canine Writer - Gracie is a 5 year-old former shelter dog who loves giving pet parents tips on how to keep their four-legged friends healthy and happy with her column, "Greetings from Gracie." She loves playing with her brother Andy, who is also a rescue. She loves traveling, Tucson and the many friendly animal lovin' people and their pets she has met. Email: gracie@thetucsondog.com

THE TUCSON DOG

5151 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 1600, Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 345-2801

Publisher/Editor

Ann Herrington

ann@thetucsondog.com

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY

Candice Eaton

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

BG & Ritta Boyd

Kim Eisele

Steve Farley

Tammy Fricks

Diane Russell

The most cared for Cats and Dogs!

At The Animal League of Green Valley we socialize, groom, train and love all of our felines and canines.

When you come to us for a pet, we share our experiences about the animal you are interested in.

A successful adoption is our desired goal.

Trouble



Stella



Want to adopt? **FIRST,**
Check our Website: www.talgv.org
OR Facebook: Facebook/talgv
THEN call us at 520-625-3170
between 10 AM to 2 PM
to schedule your appointment.



1600 W. Duval Mine Rd.
Green Valley, AZ

The Tucson Dog reserves the right to editorial control of all articles, stories and Letters to the Editor. The Tucson Dog assumes no responsibility for errors within its publication. The views herein do not necessarily represent the policies of The Tucson Dog and should not be construed as endorsements. The Tucson Dog was established in June 2017 and is a nonpartisan publication that is published bi-monthly by Ann Herrington, Founder. Entire contents copyright 2021 by The Tucson Dog. Layout, Design and Graphics by EMI Printworks, Prescott, AZ., Linda Morris - Lead Designer, Mark Davidson - Production Manager.

Calendar

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Two Sisters Paws & Reflect Yoga Studio On-Going Sept. Events

**Chair yoga: Mons 12pm/Fris 11am
Morning Meditation & Wake Up:
Wed. Sept. 15, 7am**

**Yin: Sun. Sept. 12 & 19, 7pm
Restorative: Wed. Sept. 22, 6pm
Gentle: Wed. Sept. 8, 6pm
& Sat. Sept. 25, 4pm.**

All classes via zoom. First class free. A.M. sessions by donation. All Sept. donations go to Hope of Deliverance Dog Rescue.

Info: twosisterspawsandreflect.com/

Wed. Sept. 1 Start Date 8th Annual 31 Fundraiser for Desert Labrador Retriever Rescue

Be the first to shop the new DLRR fall catalogue! Spend \$50 & get 50% off. 20% of your purchases go to DLRR. Everyone who places an order will be entered in a drawing for a special gift. Call/text 402.499.9297 or email mahynes62@gmail.com.

Shopping link: www.mythirtyone.com/356117?pd=12088269

Fri. Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24, 7pm-8pm Cat People - Netflix Watch Party!

El Jefe Cat Lounge 520.849.8856
No Reservations Needed - Normal Lounge Entrance. Show is 30 minutes & then 30 minutes to play with cats. Eljefecatlounge.com

Sat. Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, 11am-2pm S. Arizona Cat Rescue On-going Adoption Events at PetSmart

Adopt our cats/kittens every Saturday each month at PetSmart.
4374 N. Oracle Rd. Tucson 85705
View adoptables on our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter accounts @sacatrescue or our website sacatrescue.org. 520.200.1643
Info: adoption@sacatrescue.org

Sept. 4, 7, 18, 21, Times Vary Rattlesnake Avoidance Training Classes with HSSAZ

Train your dog to avoid rattlesnakes & protect your family. The Humane Society of Southern Arizona provides valuable, life-saving Rattlesnake Avoidance classes spring to fall. Each class gives dogs the necessary training to help prevent an expensive & potentially deadly snakebite. Contact: Stephanie Gary at 520.327.6088 Ext.125.

Sun. Sept. 5 & 19, 8am-9am Obedience Training with Mekenna's K-9 Training

K-9 obedience classes at Reid Park the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month taking place by the dog park. Drop in! Cost: \$20 Info: 541.771.0006 mekenna.smith@gmail.com

Sat. Sept. 11, 18, 25, 10am-12pm Humane Heroes Academy, Part of HSSAZ's Hand-in-Paw Kids Club

Humane Heroes Academy empowers youth in our community to be the best animal advocates they can be. At the core of this program is the human-animal bond. This bond is strengthened when children are taught to respect & appreciate animals. Info: afaulk@hssaz.org.

Sat. Sept. 11, 10am-2pm Moon & Stars Animal Rescue

Adoptable cats at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location. 520.322.5080
4740 E. Grant Rd. Tucson 85712
moonandstarsanimalrescue.org

**Mon. Sept. 13 & 20, 4pm-5pm
SOL Dog Lodge & Training Center** has 3 training classes for canines on the 1st & 2nd Monday of each month. The Human Animal Connection class: for people only. Adult Enrichment Obedience class: 6 classes for dogs 10mths & up. Puppy Play & Learn Group: 4 classes for puppies 8-12wks old. 520.345.0075 info@soldoglodge.com

**Sat. Sept. 18, 2:30pm-3:30pm
HSSA's Paws & Pages Literacy Program**
Your child will build reading skills while providing comfort to shelter pets at the Paws & Pages Literacy Program. The program gives kids the opportunity to have a positive impact on the lives of shelter pets while building confidence & improving reading skills. For info, contact Amy Faulk at afaulk@hssaz.org or at 520.327.6088 Ext. 171.

**Sat. Sept. 18, 10 am-5pm
Rescue Me Marana Grand Opening**
Rescue Me Tucson Inc. invites you to join them in celebrating the grand opening of Rescue Me Marana, their first collaborative-based pet adoption center with shopping boutique! Be there early for the ribbon cutting & a day filled with fun activities.
6401 W. Marana Center Blvd. #902 85742
Info: 520.409.3039 or rescuemetucson@gmail.com

**Sat. Sept. 25, 5pm-8pm
2021 Rescue Me Fall Banquet**
Learn about the inimitable bond between one man & his service dog & their harrowing story of survival on 9/11 as told by the man who lived it, Michael Hingson. On top of the incredible banquet dinner, a one-of-a-kind live auction experience & incredible raffle items, you won't want to miss this. For tickets, www.hssaz.org/RescueMe.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Fri. Oct. 1st thru 17th Puttin' on the Dog Online Auction

Shop to find amazing & unique items for yourself or your family & friends all from the comfort of your own home. The best part is that every dollar you spend helps save the lives of pets in our community! Keep an eye on our social media sites & our website (www.hssaz.org) for more details.

Oct. 2, 5, 16, Times Vary 7am-7pm Rattlesnake Avoidance Training Classes with HSSAZ

Train your dog to avoid rattlesnakes & protect your family. The Humane Society of Southern Arizona provides valuable, life-saving Rattlesnake Avoidance classes spring to fall. Each class gives dogs the necessary training to help prevent an expensive & potentially deadly snakebite. Contact: Stephanie Gary at 520.327.6088 Ext.125.

**Sat. Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 10am-3pm
All the Furbabies Shop** will be at the St. Philip's Market with stylish pet bandanas for furbabies!
St. Philip's Plaza
4280 N. Campbell Ave.
www.allthefurbabies.com
Christallawson@gmail.com
520.245.8884

**Sat. Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 11am-2pm
S. Arizona Cat Rescue On-going
Adoption Events at PetSmart**
Adopt our cats/kittens every Saturday each month at PetSmart.
4374 N. Oracle Rd. Tucson 85705
View adoptables on our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter accounts @sacatrescue or our website sacatrescue.org. 520.200.1643
Info: adoption@sacatrescue.org

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Obedience Training with
Mekenna's K-9 Training**
K-9 obedience classes at Reid Park the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month taking place by the dog park. Drop in! Cost \$20 Info: 541.771.0006 mekenna.smith@gmail.com

**Mon. Oct. 4 & 11, 4pm-5pm
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**Sat. Oct. 16, 2:30pm-3:30pm
HSSAZ Paws & Pages Literacy Program**
Your child will build reading skills while providing comfort to shelter pets at the Paws & Pages Literacy Program. The program gives kids the opportunity to have a positive impact on the lives of shelter pets while building confidence & improving reading skills. For info, contact Amy Faulk at afaulk@hssaz.org or at 520.327.6088 Ext. 171.

Sat. Oct. 23, 8am-7pm Strut Your Mutt Walk & Celebration Day Fundraiser

Join the Strut Your Mutt Walk at Tucson Premium Outlets with Rescue Me Tucson for an entire day's worth of family-fun activities. Start w/an 8am walk, stay for pet adoptions & wind down with our signature Yappy Meower at 5pm.
520.409.3039
6401 W. Marana Center Blvd. #902 85742
dawn@rescuemetucson.org

**Tues. Oct. 26, 6pm-7pm
Cat Harness Training Class**
El Jefe Cat Lounge 520.849.8856
Come meet our local Tucson Cat Hiking Club Group & learn how to teach your cat to walk on a harness. \$15/Person Reservations required.
Eljefecatlounge.com

**Sat. Oct. 30, 4pm-8 pm
Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary
Annual Fall Fundraiser**
Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead)
Celebration to honor equines & humans loved & lost throughout 17 years of Equine Rescue. Dinner, live music, silent & live auctions. Seating by reservation only.
Longhorn Grill & Saloon, Amado, AZ. For info, call 520.398.2814 or go to equinevoices.org/2021-events/.

**Sun. Oct. 31, 7pm-9pm
Movie Nights with Cats - Rocky Horror
Picture Show!**
El Jefe Cat Lounge 520.849.8856
You & a guest will have your own couch/table with space between other guests. Each person receives 1 free beverage & individual popcorn upon entrance - Additional food/drinks available for purchase. Recommend ages 18 & up.
Eljefecatlounge.com

**Two Sisters Paws & Reflect Yoga Studio
On-Going October Events
Chair yoga: Mons 12pm/Fris 1am
Morning Meditation & Wake Up:
Wed. Oct. 13, 7am
Yin: Sun. Oct. 3 & 17, 7pm
Restorative: Wed. Oct. 20, 6pm
Gentle: Wed. Oct. 6, 6pm &
Sat. Oct. 23, 4pm.**

All classes via zoom. First class free. A.M. sessions by donation. Info: twosisterspawsandreflect.com/





Grand Opening September 18, 2021

10 am

Join us for the official Grand Opening of **Rescue Me Marana** at Tucson Premium Outlets, 6401 W Marana Center Blvd in Suite 902 Marana, Arizona 85742 (across from Old Navy).

Rescue Me Marana is Rescue Me Tucson, Inc.'s first compassionate, collaborative-based pet adoption center showcasing adoptable dogs and cats from our region's most amazing rescues and shelters.

Shop in our upscale pet-lifestyle retail center for canine and feline toys & treats - and gifts for the pet-lovers in your life!



www.RescueMeTucson.org 🐾 520.261.1616

Best Friends Strut Your Mutt

Register now to help save lives.

Team Rescue Me Tucson - Strut Your Mutt Walk
October 23, 2021
8 am - 10 am

Tucson Premium Outlets in Marana
6401 W Marana Center Blvd

Strut solo, or with your social cat or dog at Tucson Premium Outlets in Marana! Our **Rescue Me Tucson Team** is part of the national **Best Friends Strut Your Mutt Day** celebrations. Join our team by registering at StrutYourMutt.org and select the **Rescue Me Tucson Team** or use the QR code below.

We have an entire day's worth of family fun activities planned. Start with a walk, stay for pet adoptions, and wind down with our signature **Yappy Meower**.



Rescue Me Marana opens on September 18th! Join us as we open our first compassionate, collaborative-based pet adoption center showcasing adoptable dogs and cats from our region's most amazing rescues and shelters.

www.RescueMeTucson.org 🐾 520.261.1616

THE TUCSON DOG MAGAZINE'S

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Dogtoberfest
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thetucsondogmag](http://www.facebook.com/thetucsondogmag)

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Box

The Tucson Dog Magazine ~ Three Canyon Beer & Wine Garden ~ Big Dog Charitable Foundation

A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

All the dogs on these pages are available for adoption now. If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please contact the group listed with the picture.

Pima Animal Care Center, \$0 adoption fee. A \$20 license fee applies to adult dogs. Adoption includes spay or neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip, & a free vet visit. Contact: Pima Animal Care Center, 4000 N. Silverbell Rd. 724.5900. Mon.- Fri. 12pm-7pm. Sat.- Sun. 10am-5pm.



TREVOR ID# A740528

I'm a 4 y/o lap dog, even though I've been told I'm a bit too big for it. A volunteer favorite, that's probably cuz I'm sweet, friendly, affectionate & people oriented. I prefer sitting around & getting attention more than anything else. I'm easy to leash, a gentle walking companion, & know how to sit for treats!



LILLY ID# A746828

At 6 ys/o, I'm very outgoing, social & friendly, a real bundle of energy. I'm housebroken, adore people, know "sit" & "look" & I'm a huge "foodie." In playgroup I'm tolerant & initiate & engage in play with other dogs. I really enjoy frolicking in the doggy pool & playing with toys.



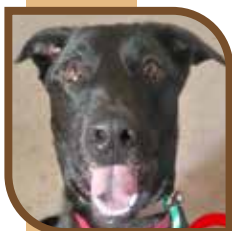
LUCKY ID# A618888

At 8 ys/o, I enjoy going for slow, leisurely walks. I'm affectionate, quiet, mellow, independent, housebroken & a huge fan of treats! During play time with other calm dogs at PACC, I'm tolerant, friendly & easy-going but also like to keep to myself. I'm also responsive, well-mannered, easy to leash & appreciate attention.



KOBE

70lbs of chocolate Lab, I'm looking for someone who enjoys giving belly rubs, walking, hiking & staying busy. At 1 1/2 y/o, I'm smart, curious, playful & fun. I'm housebroken & crate/obedience trained. I need a strong leader, cuz I'm an energetic boy. Continued training provided at no cost.



REMI

I'm Remi, a 1 y/o neutered black Lab mix who's playful, loves giving kisses & am just crazy about my toys! Silly, goofy & handsome, I'm slim & trim at 50lbs. I love walks & hikes & hangin with other dogs. With formal training done, I'm housebroken & crate trained. Looking for an active companion in a forever home.

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Please contact an adoptions counselor to learn more about our animals and set up a time to come meet them at 520-327-6088 ext. 173, and visit us at HSSA's Main Campus at 635 W. Roger Rd.

MOOCHIE ID# 904476

Hi there, I'm a 2y/o pit bull mix! An affectionate girl looking for the right family to welcome me into their home, the first thing you'll notice about me is how friendly I am. Just walk up to me & you'll see my butt start to wiggle, cuz I'm everyone's best friend, & you'll admire my dreamy, sleek coat.

TANK ID# 882145

Hello! I've been living at HSSA since my owner could no longer take care of me. I am a polite dog with/an energy level somewhere between couch potato & athlete who loves people. I get along w/mellow dogs who don't overstimulate me & respect my boundaries. If you're interested in me, I'd love to meet any doggy siblings first.

Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary, Marana, AZ
Contact: 520.616.0171 cherishedtails@yahoo.com

TOMTOM

I'm a sweet 11 y/o boy looking for love. Leash/crate trained & housebroken, I'm not an excessive barker & make friends easily. About 13lbs, I like swimming to stay trim. I've had past issues w/dry eyes & corneal ulcers & need OTC drops. I'd be happiest in a family w/only 1 or 2 other well matched dogs.

The Animal League of Green Valley \$85 adoption fee.
TALGV Appointments 10am-2pm. 520.625.3170.

STITCH

I'm a 2 y/o, 58lb Staffie mix guy who'd like to be your only pet. I already know lots of commands, but I do get a bit nervous about loud noises, strange dogs, & new people. Once we're friends, I'd really enjoy a quiet & peaceful home with you.

CLYDE

I'm a 4-year-old, hound/heeler mix guy that needs to be your only pet. I walk well on leash and am perfecting "wait" and "leave it" behaviors. If you're an active person who'll give me lots of attention and exercise, let's get acquainted gradually and maybe become best friends!



Rescue A Golden of Arizona

*Serving statewide since 1998. Re-homed over 3400 dogs.
No dogs turned away because of age, illness, or injury*

HOW WE CAN HELP:

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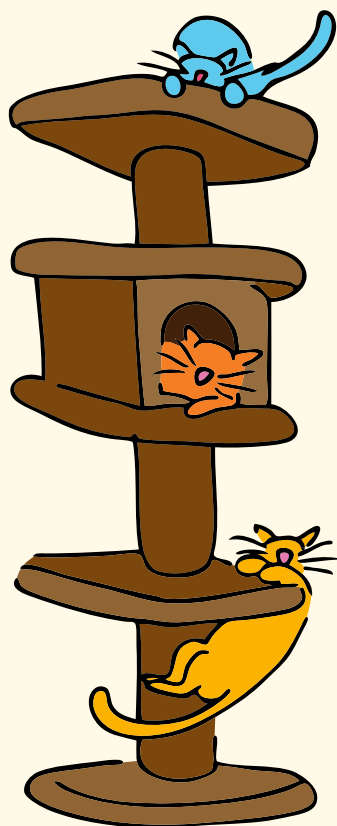
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The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption

All the cats on this page are available for adoption now.

If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please call the group listed with the picture.



The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary,
5278 E 21st St, Tucson 85711
hermitagecatshelter.org
Adoption applications:
hermitagecatshelter.org/adoption-application/



KICKSTART & NOS

We're bonded sisters who just celebrated our 1st birthdays! We came to the Hermitage with our siblings cuz our human was moving. We're interested in cats & humans, curious about everything, & we've never met a treat we didn't like. We'd love to share an afternoon & treats with you!



NINDARA (M) & NINSHE (F)

We're bonded 1 year-old twins found in a TNR sweep. The best of friends, we're quiet & sweet. We are getting used to being around more people, so we hope to find a loving home with a patient human who will love us both!

The Animal League of Green Valley \$45 adoption fee
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POLAR

I'm a 2 y/o Tuxedo guy that is slow to warm up but really wants your patience, friendship, & a place in your home. Once we're buds, I will roll on my back for attention, enjoy being petted, like giving kisses, love playing with string toys, & getting treats.



NALA

I'm a 7 y/o Manx "Maine Coonish" lady who needs a patient person to help me get over being parted from my former family who separated & couldn't take me along. I can be slow to warm up, but please give me a chance to be part of your family.

PACC CATS: \$0 adoption fee. Adoption includes spay or neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip, and a free vet visit.

Contact: Pima Animal Care Center, 4000 N. Silverbell Rd. 724.5900.
Mon.- Fri. 12pm-7pm Sat.- Sun. 10am-5pm



BEEDEW DSH ID# A735195

At 5 ys/o, I have the softest & cutest meow that'll melt your heart! I'm somewhat vision impaired, but can likely see shadows & navigates well in places I know. I get pretty excited at meal time. I've lived with other cats, am food motivated, & one of my favorite pastimes is napping.



SHEBA DMH ID# A746169

I think that basking in sun puddles is the way to spend the day! I'm 8 ys/o & napping is at the top of my list of favorites, followed by eating tasty treats, napping (oh! we already mentioned that?!), crinkle toys to bat around, & window shopping (to watch the birds & lizards, of course!).



BLUES ID# A748786

I'm the BESTEST office cat ever working as a lap warmer, giving kisses & "love" nibbles. I'm 10 ys/o & diabetic, I take my insulin like a champ. I'm looking for a foster or forever family to help me manage my needs. Curious about diabetic kittys? Plz Email Stephanie.Stryker@pima.gov. Fostering for PACC all medical costs are covered, including prescription food.

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Please contact an adoptions counselor to learn more about our animals and set up a time to come meet them at 520-327-6088 ext. 173, and visit us at HSSA's Main Campus at 635 W. Roger Rd.



KIANA ID# 905295

I'm a magnificent 3 y/o who's quite unique! I see the world in a different way - by exploring my surroundings through sound. I keep my ears wiiiide open & tilt my head back & forth while I learn about new spaces. Once I'm comfortable, you'll see how curious & playful I am. I can't wait to find my forever family!



VIRGO ID# 904458

I'm Virgo, a 1 y/o cat who's searching for a forever home. If you've been looking for a reason to adopt, consider me your sign. Though I come off as shy at first, anyone who knows me will tell you how sweet I truly am. Are we a pairing written in the stars? Come meet me to find out!

Southern Arizona Cat Rescue

520.200.1643 Apply at: <https://sacatrescue.org/adoption-application>



CHLOE

I love pets & scratches behind my ears. I'm a little shy at first & with loud noises, but I'm an awesome kitty that has been waiting for her forever home for a long time! I'm fine with dogs, other cats, & kids, as long as they're respectful. I'm about 2.5 y/o, spayed, current on vaccines, FIV/FelV negative & microchipped.

Special Feature

A Bonded Pair

Story by Kim Eisele, The Animal League of Green Valley



Freddy



Buddy

What do you do if you are two, very sweet senior Dachshunds with one of you being blind and you suddenly find out you are homeless? Have someone call The Animal League of Green Valley (TALGV). And that is exactly what happened with Buddy and Freddy.

Buddy and Freddy had lived with their 94-year-old dad for their entire 14 years. Unfortunately he could no longer care for them. Much to his dismay, he had to relinquish them. The boys arrived at TALGV afraid and unsure of their new surroundings, but they quickly warmed up to the friendly volunteers. It was immediately evident that they were a bonded pair. Freddy, the blind Dachshund, used Buddy as his guide dog and followed him everywhere. They had to be adopted together!

TALGV treated these sweet dogs with kid gloves, gave them lots of love, had their vet perform a medical exam and do blood work on them (which by the way showed they were in excellent health), and ultimately placed them in a foster home while a search was made for a perfect new home.

Finally a woman in Colorado contacted TALGV and said she was interested in Buddy and Freddy. After she was interviewed and was determined to be a good fit for these adorable canines, plans were made to transport the two to their new home, which included three other senior dogs.

The transport went flawlessly and they have now settled into their new forever home... together as bonded pairs should be.

Please call 520-625-3170 for more information about TALGV or visit our website at www.talgv.org



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Cover Story: Soldier's Best Friend, Helping Veterans

Story by Rebecca West and Photos by Candice Eaton

Soldier's Best Friend is an incredible program here in Arizona designed to give service members improved wellbeing and quality of life through relationships with service animals. The group behind the program is dedicated to bringing about positive change



Eric & Piglet practice eye contact

for veterans diagnosed with PTSD, and the impact they've had so far has been life changing. We were fortunate enough to be able to pick the brain of Katie Ares, Executive Director of Soldier's Best Friend in Phoenix. Katie was kind enough to answer well over a dozen questions for us and fill us in on how SBF got its start.

The SBF Story...

Following his father's passing in 2007, Dr. John Burnham had a desire to connect with something bigger. He wanted something more, something that engaged his military interests, honored his father, and allowed him to use his personal and professional talents to a greater degree in service to the community.

Through his veterinary practice, Dr. Burnham worked with veterans and cared for their pets. He witnessed how the interaction with the animals helped returning vets interact more comfortably in civilian environments, sparking an idea. This idea was nurtured by the study of institutional research that supported the therapeutic relationships John was seeing firsthand and by outreach to experts in the field of service animals, behavioral science, and veteran services.

John knew there must be a way to give more veterans the chance to experience the unconditional love and support that only a canine companion can bring. He also knew he had a unique opportunity to help reduce the number of homeless dogs living in local shelters. With this alignment of purpose, Soldier's Best Friend became Dr. Burnham's dream and driving passion. With the support of his devoted wife and business partner, Jan, the organization was founded in 2011, becoming a reality.



Daniel & Deco practice "leave it"

Dr. Burnham's goal has been to create a nonprofit devoted to placing and training service dogs for our veterans at no cost to them. His wish was to acquire many of the dogs through local rescue organizations, thus helping our overwhelming pet-overpopulation problem.

As to the where, when, and how right now, SBF trains across Arizona, currently offering training in Flagstaff, Prescott, Phoenix Metro, Tucson, and the Sierra Vista regions. Requirements for eligibility outline that the applicant must have a confirmation of diagnosis of combat-related PTSD and/or TBI, participate in a thorough interview process (including a home inspection), provide two letters of reference, and undergo a background check, prior to being considered for acceptance into the program.

To date, the group has rescued more than 185 dogs from shelters and rescue partners during the course of the program. Over the past decade, they've partnered with skads of shelters and rescues, such as K9 Konnection, White German Shepherd Rescue, BARK, Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, Arizona Animal Welfare League, Humane Society of the White Mountains, Humane Society of Central Arizona, Marvel Assistance Dogs, PAWS, Yavapai Humane Society, Sierra Vista Animal Care and Control, Nancy J.



Aaron & Castie check out a strange looking intruder

Brua Animal Care Center, Arizona Small Dog Rescue, Bisbee Animal Shelter, Fetch Foundation, The Animal League of Green Valley, and Saving Paws.

When it came to the question of how the animals and vets are matched up or paired, Katie told us that they have an adoptions specialist who meets with the veterans to discuss individual needs that includes lifestyle, other

pets in the home, children in the home, allergies, what their specific tasks will be, etc., to find the best possible fit for each veteran.

As far as where the training for the vets and animals takes place, SBF is very fortunate to have a dedicated training facility with over 3300 sq. ft. at their Peoria campus that was built in 2016 (where a majority of their teams train). In the outlying regions, they use borrowed and donated space, such as the Warrior Healing Center in Sierra Vista. The teams can often be seen at local parks, outdoor mall areas, and other local businesses where they have an opportunity to get reaccustomed to everyday situations in every day environments.

Training typically takes a minimum of 6-9 months once the teams are paired, sometimes more. The teams attend training sessions twice per week and each session lasts approximately one hour. They use the owner/handler model, so their professional service dog trainers train the veteran to train their dog. As of July 21, 2021, 305 veteran/dog teams have graduated from SBF's Service/Therapeutic Companion Dog Training Program. They recently had their first in-person graduation ceremony since 2019! It should be pointed out that there isn't a set time for graduations. It truly just depends on the progress and advancement through the rigorous testing schedules of the teams.



Eric & Piglet practice recall with obstacles

We also wanted to know how Katie became involved with SBF and what the best part of being with the program was for her. As it turns out, she started as the Operations Manager in 2018, and after a brief hiatus, returned in 2020 to serve in a new capacity as Executive Director. She then shared that her background is in direct service, and that she's always considered herself a "dog person."

Live Better Lives with the Support of Furry Friends

"As a military spouse and daughter of a Vietnam Veteran, the mission is very near and dear to my heart. I have also seen firsthand, the positive impact that dogs have on the lives of people living with Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS)," she explained.

"When I reconnect with graduates and hear stories about a veteran who is preparing for a flight across the country, when just a few years ago they were isolating at home... it's those moments for me that are the best part about working with the program. Stories like this wouldn't be possible without the community support and dedicated team that we have at Soldier's Best Friend. Being surrounded by a team and community dedicated to serving those who have served our country is an honor. Seeing dogs enter into our program and being given important missions and growing into their potential as a Service Dog is quite astonishing.



Aaron & Castle practice "leave it"

testimonials of how their lives changed, celebrating in a crowd with their family and loved ones, and then becoming a mentor to incoming veterans, speaks volumes."

Additionally, we wanted to give Katie and SBF an opportunity to share with the public a few things about the program that folks might not be aware of. For instance, programming is provided at no cost to the veterans in training. SBF relies on the generosity of communities to ensure that all of the necessary training equipment, supplies, professional dog training fees, etc., are not a financial burden to veterans, who have already given so much.



Trainer Carrie Haas instructing the team

"Following the teams from the application process through graduation is an extremely impactful opportunity. Often, the veterans haven't left their home in quite some time, might have their blinds drawn, or in some cases, even foil on their windows. To see them one year later taking the stage at a graduation, speaking publicly, and sharing their

"We would not be able to share these success stories without our trainers, staff, and volunteers. Their commitment and dedication to the combat-veterans and dogs in our program exemplify the vision that Dr. Burnham had a decade ago."

Speaking of which, we asked how the program has impacted the lives of the staff and volunteers, and Katie told us this by way of explanation:

"We have volunteers who have been with the organization from the very beginning. These folks are dedicated to our mission and play such an integral role in making sure that we can continue to offer robust programming to our veteran/dog teams. Our trainers and staff often share that SBF is their passion project and being able to see the veterans at the beginning of training to the end, at graduation, is something that truly impacts us all. Our trainers sometimes ask for staff to assist in training for the purpose of acting as a crowd and create distractions."

Which brings us to Carrie Haas, who has been training dogs for 40 years, five of which have been with SBF as a trainer in Tucson and Sierra Vista. Carrie graciously spoke with us as well, admitting that the job she's performing is her heart's work. "It's been rewarding to see the change in vets, their being able to do stuff now that they found nearly impossible before taking part in training."

Many of these sessions include group sessions and opportunities for members to support and mentor one another. Groups generally consist of three to six teams but can be as many as 10. Carrie also informed us that not all of the teams are paired after applying to the program but that some of the dogs are actually an existing pet. While this can present its own challenges, one of the things that she felt was important to relate is that all disabilities are not visible and that if you see a service dog, don't stop to pet it. It's working and shouldn't be distracted from performing its job. Stellar advice.



Eric & Piglet practice ignoring distractions

We discussed the fact that most people have no idea of the struggles many veterans face each day as they try to successfully navigate life after their experiences in the military. Without the assistance of outreach programs like Soldier's Best Friend and trainers like Carrie, a lot of them would find it difficult to function at the levels they need to in order to thrive. It's the little things so many of us take for granted that can create stumbling blocks for troops. Merely surviving shouldn't be their only option.

"For me, every one of my teams is a favorite success story," Carrie added.

SBF is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, and one of the ways they're marking it is through a golf tournament on November 6, 2021, at the Talking Stick Golf Club in Scottsdale. All proceeds will go toward programming. Info at soldiersbestfriend.org.

Always in need of additional support for events as they arise and of foster families, anyone interested in volunteering can apply on their website at soldiersbestfriend.org/how-to-help/volunteer.html.

Special Feature

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary Annual Fall Fundraiser

Story by Diane Russell, Photos by Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary

For 17 years, Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary, in Amado, AZ, has provided a home for horses and burros in need of food, shelter, veterinary care, and love. Equine Voices has rescued over a thousand equines who were abandoned, abused, used in drug smuggling, and in the production of the drug Premarin. They have been given a second chance for a new home through adoption and, in many cases, a forever home at the Sanctuary.

Founded in 2004, the primary mission of Equine Voices was to save mares and their foals used in the production of Premarin, a post-menopausal hormone drug for women. Premarin stands for Pregnant Mare Urine which is used in the manufacture of the drug. The foals are the by-product of the industry and are generally sent to auction. If lucky, they will be adopted; if not, they are sent to slaughter.

Equine Voices started with four 11-month old Premarin foals known as the "Foundation Herd". One of them became the Sanctuary Mascot. His name is Gulliver and he was chosen for the honor of mascot because the auctioneer said he was "too big and too ugly" to be adopted.

Of all the horses and burros that have come through the gate at Equine Voices, some have been adopted, some are sanctuary equines who will spend their remaining lives there, and others have crossed over the "Rainbow Bridge" leaving their hoofprints on the hearts of the volunteers and staff. Although these horses have passed on, their spirit remains alive as does their legacy of continuing our work.

This year's annual Fall Fundraiser is dedicated to them. The theme is "Día de los Muertos" or Day of the Dead, a day to remember and celebrate those we have loved and lost, both humans and animals. This event will be held on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm at the Longhorn Grill and Saloon, 28851 S. Nogales Hwy, Amado, AZ 85645. There will be a three-course dinner, silent and live auctions, and live music for dancing. Attendees are welcome to bring a photo of a loved one, human or animal, to be placed on the altar during the event. Reservation information can be found on the Equine Voices website, www.equinevoices.org/2021-events/ or by calling 520-398-2814.



Gulliver, Mascot of Equine Voices

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El Tour de Tucson and Friends of PACC, Saddling up for a Good Cause

Story by Rebecca West, Photos by Friends of PACC



El Tour de Tucson 2019

Saturday, November 20, 2021, Friends of PACC supporters will be saddling up to partake in the 38th El Tour de Tucson to help raise funds for the group's work acting as a support arm for Pima Animal Care Center. If you're unfamiliar with them, Friends of PACC was founded in 2016 by a number of dedicated PACC staff, volunteers, and community members who recognized that the newly renovated facility would need support if it was going to flourish. As a nonprofit partner to the shelter, their mission is to support and enhance PACC's critical efforts to save helpless pets, and in November they'll be doing it on two wheels.

The El Tour de Tucson enables nonprofit, charitable agencies to raise funds for their respective organizations. This is done in conjunction with the nonprofit Perimeter Bicycling, whose events have raised more than \$100 million for local and international charitable organizations.



PACC has been gathering their own team together to ride in what will be their third event, and it promises to be full of fun in the sun with other likeminded animal lovers and outdoor enthusiasts. In 2019, – COVID put the kibosh on the 2020 ride – they had 75 team members who raised more than \$25,000 in support of them.

This is a huge event. In fact, El Tour de Tucson is considered one of the

premiere cycling events in the nation, with nearly 6,000 bicyclists participating annually in the Tucson ride alone, making it by far the largest cycling event in Arizona. It's a fantastic way to get some fresh air and exercise, revel in the comradery, and raise money for a cause near and dear to the hearts of many in the tight-knit community of Tucson animal activists.

We spoke with Friends of PACC's Development & Marketing Specialist Román Urias, who told us enthusiasm is high right now after the 2020 lockdown. People are desperate to get back out and begin living again. He also stated it's due to the time and generosity of people like team creator Jerry Rosen and Lisa and Jim Dobbin in supporting the event that Friends of PACC's participation in the El Tour de Tucson has been so successful to date.



Interested? Follow these registration instructions provided by Friends of PACC to get started:

1. Go to eltourdetucson.org and click on Registration.
2. Click "Select a Non-Profit to Fundraise for."
3. Click the box of the ride you would like to participate in and scroll down to the bottom of the page. There you can either set up a BikeReg account or Register as a Guest.
4. Fill out the Participant Contact Information.
5. *Fundraising Charity – Click the arrow on the right to see the drop-down box and choose "FRIENDS OF PIMA ANIMAL CARE CENTER" for the charity.
6. Once you finish answering the questions, scroll to the bottom and click either Register Another Participant or Proceed to Checkout. Once you proceed to checkout, you'll be prompted to pay your registration fee and directed to set up your fundraising page.
7. Have fun. Be creative with it. Feel free to add pictures and tell a story about why you Ride with the PACC!



Fundraising PRIOR to registration

Many past participants have opted to fundraise prior to registration. If that's something you'd like to do, send an email to info@friendsofpacc.org including your First Name, Last Name, and Email Address. Friends of PACC will enter you into the system and you'll receive an email on setting up your fundraising page. Once you've reached their

minimum of \$150 on your page, you'll need to email them back to inform them and they'll send you a code to convert your page into an actual registration for the event.

Riders can win awesome prizes when they reach certain fundraising benchmarks!*

Buddy - \$250: One Friends of PACC coloring book and 25% off the purchase of one Ride with the PACC jersey (a \$15 value).

Friend - \$500: All of the above + one FREE team jersey OR helmet sleeve.

Best Friend - \$1,000: All of the above + El Conquistador trophy.

Soulmate - \$2,000: All of the above + three incoming shelter pet name submissions.

*Benchmarks exclude registration fees, whether fundraised at the beginning (minimum \$150) or paid outright by an individual at registration (\$145).

Registration ends October 20, 2021, so what are you waiting for? Register today and saddle up for some fall fun!

Note: If you're looking to get a feel for the ride and a taste of how it works, becoming more educated in the process and familiarizing yourself with the organizations involved, consider going on the upcoming 2021 El Tour Loop de Loop Saturday, September 25, riding the Chuck Huckelberry Loop. Residents are encouraged to join in anywhere along the Loop, giving cyclists the chance to ride from station to station meeting El Tour charitable beneficiaries and sponsors. There's also an afterparty with live music by Badlands, food/drinks, and raffle prizes with FREE raffle tickets available at each station along the Loop.



friendsofpacc.org/ridewiththepacc
eltourdetucson.org/loop-de-loop/

Animal Resource Guide

Area Shelters

Animal League of Green Valley
Onsite Adoptions
7 days a week - 10a-2p
1600 West Duval Mine Rd.
Green Valley 85614
(520) 625-3170
www.talgv.org

HOPE Animal Shelter
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Thurs, by appointment
Fri-Sat-Sun noon-4p
8950 N. Joplin Ln.
Tucson 85742
(520) 792-9200
www.hopeanimalshelter.net

Humane Society of Southern Arizona
Main Campus
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 11a-6p
Sun: noon-5p
Closed Major Holidays
635 W. Roger Rd.
Tucson 85705
(520) 327-6088
www.hssaz.org

HSSAZ Pawsh @ Park Place
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 10a-6p
Sunday 11a-5p
5870 E. Broadway Blvd.
Tucson 85711
(520) 881-7406

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 10a-2p
1145 N. Woodland Ave.
Tucson 85712
(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org
www.PAWSitivelycats.org

Paws Patrol
750 W. Camino Casa Verde
Green Valley 85614
(520) 207-4024
www.greenvalleypawspatrol.org

Pima Animal Care Center
Onsite Adoptions
Weekdays noon-7p
Weekends 10a-5p
4000 N. Silverbell Rd.
Tucson 85745
(520) 724-5900

Ajo Substation
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Wed-Fri 11a-1p
Wed 4:30-6:30p
1259 Well Rd.
Ajo 85321
(520) 387-7502

Pima Paws for Life
Onsite Adoptions
7 Days A Week
7a-11a & 3p-7p
2555 W. Zinnia Ave.
Tucson 85705
(520) 867-1193
info@pimapawsforlife.org
www.pimapawsforlife.org

The Hermitage Cat Rescue
& Sanctuary
Onsite Adoptions
Tues-Sat 10a-5p
5278 E. 21st St.
Tucson 85711
(520) 571-7839
www.hermitagecatshelter.org

Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson
ARFTucson@Gmail.com
(520) 319-9292

BARK (BabyAnimal Rescue Koalition)
585 E Wetmore Rd.
Tucson 85705
barkntucson@AOL.com
facebook.com/BARKTucson/

Central Arizona Animal Rescue
Mike@caaronline.org
facebook.com/CentralArizonaAnimalRescue/
www.caaronline.org

Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
(520) 616-0171
Cherishedtails@yahoo.com
Visit us on Facebook

Cochise Canine Rescue
Pomerene 85627
(520) 212-1718
info@cochiseaninerescue.org
www.cochiseaninerescue.org

Coalition of All Breed Rescues Arizona (CABRA)
Phoenix
arizonaweimaranerrescue@cox.net
(623) 931-1428
www.cabra.org

Hard Luck Hounds
(520) 261-7677
hardluckhounds.org
info@hardluckhounds.org

In the Arms of Angels
(520) 873-8135
inthearmsofangels@gmail.com

Lil' Bit Of Love Rescue
lilbitofloverescue@gmail.com
(520) 869-9537
<https://www.facebook.com/lilbitofloverescue/>
<http://www.lilbitoflove.com/>

Miss Maggie May's Rescue
(520) 256-3073
missmaggiemay@cox.net

RAD Rescue Inc.
Rehabbing and Advocating for Dogs
www.radrescueinc.com
radrescueinc@gmail.com

Rescue Me Marana
Tucson Premium Outlets
6401 W. Marana Blvd, Suite 902
Marana 85742
(520) 261-1616
rescuemetucson.org

RUFF Rescue
www.ruffrescuetucson.com
ruffrescuetucson@gmail.com
(520) 490-0401 or (520) 339-0841

SAFE (Saving Animals from Euthanasia)
(520) 349-8637 or (520) 250-5080
www.safeanimals.com

Save-A-Bull Rescue
www.saveabullrescue.org

Saving at Risk Animals
(520) 499-0546
www.savingatriskanimals.org

The Sanctuary Project
(800) 691-9168

Tucson Cold Wet Noses
info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com
www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

Tucson2Tails
(520) 812-5682
Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com

Tucson's Cause For Canines
(520) 283-3423
TucsonCFC@gmail.com
facebook.com/TucsonsCFC/
www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org

Tucson Rescue Now Adoption Store
La Encantada Shopping Center
2905 E Skyline Dr. suite 28
Tucson AZ 85718
Contact John Gilbert 206-718-3309
Store 520 401-1950 and on FB

Wild Hearts Rescue Ranch
(520) 661-4522
wildheartsfrcrow@gmail.com
www.wildheartrescue.org

Bird/Reptile Rescues

Forever Wild Avian Sanctuary
8605 S. Craycroft Rd., Tucson
(520) 574-3579

Tucson Parrot Rescue
(520) 747-0554
tucsonparrotrescue@gmail.com

Cat Rescues

Hearts That Purr-Feline Guardians
(520) 297-3780
The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary
5278 E. 21st St.
Tucson 85711
(520) 571-7839

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter-
1145 N. Woodland Ave.
Tucson 85712
(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org

Paws Patrol
750 W. Camino Casa Verde
Green Valley 85614
(520) 207-4024

SOS Cat Rescue AZ
Cortaro 85652
(520) 445-3889
info@SOscatrescueAZ.org

Feral Cat Assistance

Tucson Feral Coalition
(520) 256-0443
tucsonferal@gmail.com
Info about TNR (Trap, Neuter Return)
FREE Spay/Neuter of Feral Cats
Low-Cost Spay/Neuter of owned cats

Equine Rescues & Sanctuaries

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary
(520) 398-2814
www.equinevoices.org

Equine Encore Foundation
(520) 349-6008
cfolch@gmail.com
www.equineencorefoundation.org

HEART (Happy Equine Acres
Rescue & Therapy)
Tucson
(520) 445-1510
www.heartoftucson.org

Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch
& Foundation Inc.
(520) 266-0236
HorsenAroundRescue@yahoo.com

Karuna Horse Rescue
(520) 243-3267
karunarescue4sanctuary@gmail.com
<https://www.karunahorserescue.org>

Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
Gilbert
(866) 926-8007
www.wildhorseranchrescue.com

Whiskers Sanctuary
(520) 455-5424 or (520) 455-9246
toni@rrheartranch.com

Pig Sanctuary

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
(520) 631-6015
www.ironwoodpigs.org

Special Feature

Growing Number of Pets in Tucson with Valley Fever, but Help is on the Way!

Story by Rebecca West, Photos by Dr. Lisa Schubitz and Danae Nash



LPS before treatment Image by Danae Nash

dogs are especially prone to infection due to living their lives with their noses to the ground. Arizona dust storms aren't helping matters, either.

Symptoms in humans resemble the flu, but dogs are regrettably more likely to develop heightened forms of the disease with muscle wasting, seizures, and bone and brain lesions. That's why scientists and veterinarians with the University of Arizona's Valley Fever Center for Excellence have been working for 25 years toward finding a vaccine for the debilitating disease. According to the Center, two-thirds of all U.S. Valley Fever infections are contracted in Arizona, even though nationally Valley Fever is uncommon and considered an "orphan" disease.



LPS receiving his Abelect treatments Image by Danae Nash

Recently it was revealed that all of the Center's hard work has paid off with the announcement of Anivive, a groundbreaking fungal vaccine successfully vetted for Valley Fever in dogs. Reported as being the first vaccine with demonstrated efficacy against a systemic fungal disease, Anivive's vax has so far been shown to afford protection in 100 percent of vaccinated dogs. Led by Center founder and director Dr. John Galgiani, MD, the group's work was featured in a recent Scientific American article.

With the announcement, we were able to catch up with Dr. Lisa Schubitz, DVM, a biomedical researcher with the U of A team working on the vaccine. Schubitz graduated from Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in 1991. In 1996, she became involved with Valley Fever research, specifically

Coughing, fever, weight loss, lack of appetite; worrisome symptoms that are all cause for alarm when exhibited by loved ones, including family pets. If you recognize these clinical signs of illness in your dog or cat, it could be an indicator of Valley Fever, a serious though relatively rare medical condition prevalent in the Western and Southwestern portions of the United States. Valley Fever is a systemic fungal disease caused by *Coccidioides* spores that occurs through inhalation. The *Coccidioides* fungus is found most commonly in soil, and



Dr. Schubitz & canine companion Image by Dr. Lisa Schubitz

so cripplingly prohibitive that many overwhelmed pet owners have opted instead for euthanasia over watching their pets suffer needlessly – a heartbreaking decision no one should ever have to make. The good news is that the Anivive vax is projected to be commercially available by 2022. Like all vaccines, however, the purpose is to keep beings from contracting the disease, so dogs who already have it at the time of the vaccine's eventual release won't be helped by Anivive.

Secondly, due to climate change, it's estimated that more than 30 million dogs are now at risk for VF. While dogs are most frequently infected, it affects a wide array of animals. As stated, cats can also contract the disease, but at a much lower frequency. Data shows there's only one feline case estimated for every 50 canine cases. The diagnosis and treatment are similar with felines but symptoms differ, in that infected cats can get non-healing lesions with a pale yellow to reddish discharge, and cats tend to be sicker than dogs at the time of diagnosis. Vets in Tucson were seeing pets come in with VF between once a day and once a week this summer. It's been particularly bad in local shelters this year where it's ravaged dogs. To give you an idea of its virulence among canines, in Arizona only 3 percent of humans are identified as contracting it, while dogs account for 6 percent, double the cases.

Rather alarmingly, marine mammals could potentially develop VF as well, as it's been reported in dolphins and sea otters already. Around the San Francisco area, scientists at UC Davis researching sea lions reported that blood draws identified antibodies to the fungus among the population, suggesting exposure within this group as well. You can see why it's so important that successful vaccines are created.

We asked the good doctor about her life's work and how we got to where we're at now. It's been a long road but with its dividends

vaccine development, which overlapped with her clinical interests in companion animals. Both canines and felines suffer from the disease with a range of symptoms and outcomes similar to that of humans. Dually affiliated with the Department of Veterinary Science and Microbiology at U of A and the Valley Fever Center for Excellence, Schubitz spearheaded a 3-year study into the epidemiology of Valley Fever in dogs in Tucson and Phoenix.

Dr. Schubitz explained that diagnosis of VF is performed through blood draws and x-rays. While there is no guarantee of saving the animal, current treatment options take an average of 6-12 months. Costs can be



Dr. Schubitz administering medication Image by Dr. Lisa Schubitz



Daisy before treatment Image by Danae Nash

on the horizon she credits much of the good fortune regarding the vax to noted U of A veterinarian and pathologist Dr. Raymond Reed, who shared decades of knowledge and research with her before his passing in 2002. That, she acknowledged, was a big loss to veterinary science. While it's been difficult to get funding for research, she said, "There are a lot of angels out there helping the animals, and the shelters in the area have been doing a really good job. I'm continually amazed at these people who will take these dogs that are so sick."

Another of the Center's big breaks came via team member Dr. Marc Orbach, PhD, in a corn plant fungus known as *Cochliobolus*. He discovered that *Cochliobolus* and *Coccidioides* shared a common gene, Delta CPS1. Removing Delta CPS1 from the corn fungus made it less harmful, and doing the same to *Coccidioides* rendered it completely harmless in rodent models. Mice, as it turns out, are considered the best model for this type of research. Dr. Schubitz told us that she'd been working on the vaccine for 15 years at that point and had never worked with anything as protective as the Delta CPS1 strain. Dr. Galgiani stated that the vaccine wouldn't be possible without breakthroughs by Dr. Shubitz and Dr. Orbach.



Daisy's x-rays Image by Danae Nash



Daisy several months after seeing Dr. Schubitz

Not long afterwards they started a GoFundMe campaign and raised about \$10,000 to aid their cause, but it was an email from a woman who wanted to help that gave them the boost they needed by donating roughly \$40,000 over the next year. That infusion of funds enabled them to do a whirlwind of experiments, which gave them enough preliminary data to apply for an NIH grant worth nearly \$5 million. That money is what allowed them to continue the work that would eventually lead to the vaccine.

On another positive note, the success with dogs has been, as Shubitz pointed out, a proof-of-concept moment that is leading to a similar vaccine for humans in the near future. Neither vaccine could come a moment too soon. As the planet continues to heat and droughts continue to intensify, wildfires burning out of control have been spreading Valley Fever through smoke at an increased rate throughout the 21st century in California. If these patterns continue, as predicted, protection will be a welcome blessing for dogs and humans alike.



**Help
save a
life.
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now.**

Photo Credit: Michael Kloth

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How to Select the Ideal Canine for the Family

Story by Jeremy Brown, The Complete Canine

Setting your family up for success is crucial when selecting your newest furry family member at a shelter, through a rescue group or a breeder. In fact, there are a few things to look at to help guide your decision and make everyone successful for years to come. I think potential new dog owners should look at their own energy level and find a canine friend that has a similar level. What potential does your new canine friend have for training and working, and is that compatible with your abilities and the time you can put forth? The sociability of the breed is also something to consider, as certain breeds are more favorable for certain situations. Handler experience level is also important to look at since this can make the process more enjoyable and less stressful for the canine and human alike. What is home life like, are there children, how big is the property are a few other questions to ponder.

Selecting a specific breed or mixed breed doesn't mean that they all will act this way or do these tasks, but humans have bred canines for specific looks, abilities and characteristics that can easily help guide the process. Working dogs deserve a job as much as a lap dog deserves a lap, so finding a canine that enjoys what you enjoy can be a big difference maker. While I get it, picking a breed off of looks is the worst decision. Furthermore, many of these puppies end up in the shelter as they age because the human could not give what was needed for the canine to be successful in their home. Size of the home, how large is the current yard space and what is the walking situation likely are a few questions I ask, for these questions can help narrow down the selection process.

Some breeds really enjoy training and will literally be the best dog you'll ever have with a little work; others need extensive work and would have a better relationship with their handler and family with training. Do you have the time to put into training if they are a higher energy or low impulse control canine? What is your ability to stimulate the breed as needed? Do research on the breed, ask people you know who have had the breed before and what are their best abilities and worst abilities? The more you know before, the more successful we all are later. I often get calls before the dog comes into the home to help with training, and these are the people that are even more successful because they were able to plan ahead.

How social are you when it comes to life, and does the breed you desire enjoy the same? While socialization is such an important part, some breeds are more inclined to be the life of the party while others would enjoy being alone. In fact, I think it is so funny how similar we actually are to our canines! Do you want a canine family member who can go to difficult situations with ease or a couch potato? As a trainer, it is very funny to me how often people with a certain breed want the dog to do something that goes against what they were bred for or the bad behavior is what they were actually bred

to do! Training can be implemented with any dog and socialization is imperative for all but knowing the attributes of the breed or breeds can make everyone live a happy and less stressful life as well!

Another thing to consider is your future. Are you planning a move in the future? Having children or are there children in the family they would be around? These and more questions can also help guide the process and allow everyone involved a prosperous life to come.

Big things to consider when selecting:



#1
Human
and canine
energy level.



#2
Sociability,
does this
match yours?



#3
Your experience
as a trainer.



#4
Your life situations i.e., children, yard size, exercise space etc.

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Tortoises: Gentle Giants, Lifelong Companions

Arizonans adopt tort-ally awesome pets through the state's Desert Tortoise Adoption Program.

Story by Emily Dieckman, Photos courtesy of Courtney Sheldon

Courtney Sheldon had always wanted a pet tortoise. When she was 9 years old, her family would help take care of a dog kennel when the owner was away. She spent her time at the pond out back, playing with the turtles.

When she moved to Arizona in 2020, she mentioned to her boyfriend that they should get a tortoise. After all, the climate was right. She was half joking—they already had three dogs and five cats. But the idea stuck around in her mind. Then one day on Facebook, she saw an article about how the Arizona Department



Tortie weighed less than three-quarters of an ounce when Sheldon first adopted him

of Game and Fish had confiscated dozens of desert tortoises from someone who had been breeding them illegally and how these tortoises needed homes.

Tegan Wolf, the desert tortoise adoption program coordinator for the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD), explained that her office is responsible for rehoming desert tortoises all throughout the state. They usually adopt out 300 to 400 tortoises every year during adoption season, which runs from April through September. There is also a second state-sanctioned tortoise

adoption facility at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, but all of the applications are received and screened through the main facility in Phoenix. These facilities only take in captive desert tortoises, which can't be released to the wild because they may not be able to properly seek out food, and because they run the risk of transmitting diseases to the wild population.

"Lately, we've seen a lot coming in from illegal breeding," she said. "People just don't realize that when you put a male and a female together, they're going to breed... We had a case earlier this year where somebody had 65 of them in one home. We also get tortoises from people moving out of state because it is illegal to take them across state lines, or people who have been taking care of a tortoise for 30 or 40 years and can't take care of it anymore."

There's a lot to consider when adopting out a tortoise. For example, a female can still produce viable eggs even if she has been away from a male for a few years, so people accepting female tortoises are given a head's up to contact AZGFD if they observe egg laying.

Often, tortoises are also very territorial, so the office usually only adopts out one per household. "They tend to fight," Wolf said. "In the wild, [each tortoise's] range is about a mile. They'll bite each other's legs or heads, flip each other over, shove each other in a corner. They can be brutal to other tortoises."

That means Tegan works closely with each applicant to make sure they have an area that will be perfect for their new pet. The department also provides guidelines about what to feed tortoises, how to manage their brumation (or hibernation season) and more.

Wolf's job has plenty of rewarding moments. Once, they took in a tortoise whose shell had

been damaged, and then improperly fixed: Someone had tried to patch the hole using only plastic epoxy. As a result, the tissue underneath the patch job started rotting away. Wolf saw a cricket crawl out of the space, so they headed to the vet. It turns out the cricket wasn't the only uninvited guest.

"We called him Winnebago, because he had all those bugs just hitching a ride with him," she said. "We were really worried about finding the perfect home for him. We finally found somebody who built the biggest, prettiest, most amazing enclosure for him, so that's where he went. He's a happy tortoise."

When Sheldon applied to take in a tortoise, she submitted photos of the area she planned to keep it, and Wolf made recommendations to help her to get the habitat tortoise-ready. In May, Sheldon picked up a 0.74-oz little friend, a Sonoran Desert Tortoise whom she named Taco.



Tortie cooling off in his paint pan

"He's great. I'm obsessed," she said. "It's ridiculous how much personality these little animals have."

Desert tortoises live to be 80+ years old in the wild, so part of Wolf's job is making sure potential adopters have plans in place for who they will pass their tortoise down to. Sheldon said that won't be a problem. Her kids are already playfully arguing about who will inherit him one day (Sheldon is only in her 30s). She's become active in online tortoise forums and has already ordered a birthday costume on Etsy for Taco's first birthday in September.

Sheldon said the fact that Taco doesn't require much care has been helpful to her mental health. He's a companion who delivers cuteness and sass without demanding much. But she's always finding new ways to spoil him. He has little plastic dinosaurs to hang out with and knock over in his habitat, a waterproof pad to roam around in on the house and a personal pool made from a paint pan.

Under her care, he's grown to 4.48 oz — just over six times the size he was when she first got him.

"I like to take him to this little grass field behind my yard. He'll get on top of the grass and he just walks around—it's like he's going on this big adventure," she said. "I'm glad to be a part of the tortoise community."

Contact the Arizona Fish and Game Tortoise Adoption Program at azgfd.com/wildlife/nongamemanagement/tortoise/captivecare/, 844-896-5730 or TAP@azgfd.gov. Or contact the Desert Museum program at desertmuseum.org/programs/tap or 520-883-3062. Follow Taco the tortoise's adventures on his adorable Instagram page, @tortietaco.



Tortie taking a dip while one of his dinosaur friends looks on



Tortie in his habitat. Sheldon originally built him a hutch outside, but brought him inside for the summer when a combination of high heat and extreme monsoons made the outdoors dangerous for Tortie



Tortie on an adventure!

From the Director's Desk

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Story and photos by Steve Farley



Karen Loudon - manager cuts ribbon

Wow! What an amazing grand opening we had on Saturday, July 17, for our new Humane Society of Southern Arizona eastside location at 1010 S. Wilmot, just north of 22nd Street! Folks lined up around the building starting an hour before we cut the ribbon, and the new 16,000 square foot Thrift Store showroom

was packed with people all weekend long, enjoying the crowd, petting our Pet VIPs, and finding great thrifting deals -- with all proceeds going to help homeless pets. Thank you for coming, if you were there. If you haven't dropped by yet, we are open seven days a week. Either way, keep coming back - with all the great donations we get from Sam Levitz furniture and local families, it's a whole new Thrift Store each week! To find out hours for shopping or donating gently used items, see HSSAZ.org/Thrift



furniture, clothing, housewares and more

And remember, Thrift is just the beginning for our eastside location. Starting in August we will have twice weekly low-cost pet vaccination clinics and adoption events multiple times a week -- "like" our Facebook page and we will keep you updated on details. We have some fun events like Shop with a Dog and Food Truck Fridays coming up! What's even more exciting is that we are now starting a capital campaign to raise enough money to build full adoption, admissions, and clinic services there in the next few years, with 24/7 low-cost pet emergency veterinary care in collaboration with the University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine. To find out how you can help make this vision a reality, contact our Chief Development Officer Diana Cannon at dcannon@azleg.gov

In a life-changing and life-saving opportunity for the pets of Cochise County, **the Humane Society of Southern Arizona is extending our mission beyond Pima County.** Your contributions in both time and money will directly support HSSA's exciting new collaboration with Cochise County government, the City of Douglas, the City of Bisbee, and the University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine to save hundreds of pets' lives every year.



HSSA partners with Cochise County to save lives in Southern Arizona shelters

Working with little funding and space, animal shelters of Cochise County have been struggling to save as many pets as they can in cramped, small spaces that are inadequate for the pets they serve. With a yearly intake of more than 1,000 animals, this lack of space and resources has forced some of these shelters to make heartbreaking choices. **In Douglas alone, 30% of dogs and 70% of cats are euthanized annually.**

We can save those lives. That's why starting this July, **HSSA is taking urgent action with your help.** Working with a wide variety of engaged partners and committed volunteers,

we will begin transporting an average of ten animals per week from the Douglas shelter to our main campus in Tucson to save their lives, provide for their health and behavioral needs, and find them loving homes.

Working with the U of A College of Veterinary Medicine, we plan to provide weekly veterinary service to shelter and public pets in Douglas, including spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, wellness exams, and more, starting later this year. We are simultaneously seeking \$2 million in funds to convert a former juvenile detention facility in Bisbee into a state-of-the-art full-service HSSA animal shelter and clinic which we hope to open to the public in early 2024.

In all, this project has the potential to serve 10,000 homeless pets in its first five years of operation.

This innovative collaboration for homeless and at-risk pets in Southern Arizona will become an inspiration for rural shelters across the country, saving thousands and thousands of lives in the process. **Won't you join us in making this lifesaving vision a reality?** To become a transport volunteer or to donate, please visit www.hssaz.org/cochise

Join us on September 25th for a night to remember as we host esteemed guest, Michael Hingson, best-selling author and 9/11 survivor, who will be sharing his inspiring story of the day his service dog saved his life during the events that shook the world on September 11, 2001. Rescue Me tickets are on sale now -- tickets can be purchased for \$75 at www.hssaz.org/rescueme to enjoy a night of inspiration and heart that supports the invaluable work of the HSSA Education Department from 5:00pm-8:00pm at the El Conquistador Tucson, located at 10000 North Oracle Road Tucson, AZ 85704 in the Presidio Ballroom. Accompanying our guest speaker will be a delicious dinner, a one-of-a-kind live auction item, and amazing raffle items! This will be an evening you will hold close to your heart for years to come. You don't want to miss this! Advanced ticket purchase is a must -- seats are limited and tickets will not be available at the door.



Rescue Me Banquet Dinner featuring Michael Hingson tickets on sale now

We've extended our adoption hours at Roger Road. You can now make an appointment or just drop by our adoption center at 635 W Roger Road just west of Oracle to find your new best friend all the way till 7:00pm on most days. It's been an intense kitten and puppy season this year, so we are still full of kittens, puppies, and senior pets just waiting for your love. Adoption services are now available from noon to 7:00pm on Mondays-Saturdays, and noon to 5:00pm on Sundays.

Stay tuned for our upcoming Wish for A Full Dish pet food donation drive that will take place throughout the month of November. Our goal? To collect food and funds from the public in order to help lower income families feed their four-legged friends through the holidays. Stay tuned to our Facebook pages to learn more about this community-driven initiative that will keep Tucson's pets fed and healthy as we move into the winter season.

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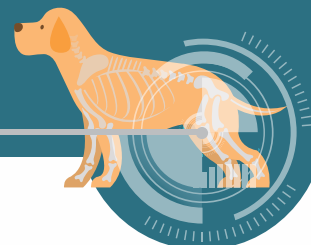
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Celebration of Life

Rossi Fricks

Story and photo by Tammy Fricks

Unconditional love. We all want it, and what a blessing to receive it. December 4, 2010 was the day that I met my best friend, Rossi. This was the beginning of a life-changing relationship, full of faithfulness, loyalty, and true companionship. I adopted Rossi from a local shelter, and he immediately stole my heart, along with the hearts of my children and friends. He was two years old, full of energy, a little bit of mischief, and a lot of devotion. I remember coming home from work for the first time after adopting him.

His little "swifter" tail was wagging like crazy, his tongue was hanging out, and he was running around thrilled, that I was back. His full on greeting that day would be how he would greet me every time I walked in the door. I could have been gone for several days or just walking out to my car and back. Either way, I was greeted as if I was the most important person in the world; and to him, I was.

Rossi loved playing chase around the house. When he wanted to play, he would start barking and take off running. That would be our cue to join in. When he would get tired of playing, he would jump on his "base", which was a chest with his favorite blanket on it. He also loved to go on walks. Rossi and I walked three to five times a day, every day. These walks introduced me to neighbors out walking their dogs, which over time, became treasured friendships for all of us. While I thought I was taking my dog out to enjoy the outdoors, I was actually the one that was being fulfilled. I looked forward to our walks, craving the quiet time, a chance to hear birds singing and to see the rabbits playing. Looking back on it now, I had no idea that our first walk would be the start of *thousands* of walks. To be honest, I'm not sure who enjoyed our walks more. What I do know, is that I will forever have memories of Rossi and the gift of special friends because of him.

I truly cherish the friendship that Rossi and I shared. He was always there for me. He was my reason for coming home after my kids graduated and moved for college. He was my reason to get out of bed each morning when the pandemic hit and life was full of disappointments. He would be excited when I was excited, and he would be there to snuggle when he felt my sadness or anxiety. Constantly by my side was my precious Roro, giving joy to each day. He was my best friend and my baby all in one. He was a brother to my children and a true member of our family.

Rossi took a part of our hearts with him on May 17, 2021. There have been days since then that seem unbearable. During those times, I remind myself that I would not have it any other way. When we love deeply, we grieve deeply. We have forever been changed by the love he offered us, as well as the love he taught us. His legacy will always stand the test of time in our hearts and lives. Not a day goes by that I do not think of him, and I look forward to the day when we will meet again. Who saved who, baby boy, who saved who?



Legend

Story and photo by BG & Rita Boyd

We first came across Legend from a PACC Facebook post and saw that he was returned twice and unfortunately this was his last chance. We went and snatched him up at the last minute. When we got to PACC, it took us a few minutes to find him and mere seconds after we did, an employee showed up to cat test him. We stood by and said he doesn't need a cat test, we were going to take him and wouldn't leave his side until someone came to take him out for us.



When we got him home we did find out that he indeed had some issues. The poor guy was just so anxious and scared about everything. He clearly had a rough life. We had to do some drywall work not too long after adopting him. To this day we still haven't fixed the bedroom door he ate. We tried a thunder-coat for his anxiety but when we came home, he had somehow removed it and shred it into a hundred pieces! We also had to do some brick wall repair outside due to his extreme dedication to protecting our backyard from all manner of lizards, birds, and strong gusts of wind.

Despite his challenges, we wouldn't change a thing about him. We found out what worked for him and made sure he was happy. With the company of his new best friend Luna, he eventually calmed down and lived his best life. He and Luna cuddled and played every day. Catch never did grow on him, but he did occasionally like to catch the ball and then promptly drop it. One of his favorite activities was to dry himself off on our couch after a bath.

Legend was always smiling, even up to his last moments. On May 24th, 2019 he passed away from cancer. We were fortunate enough to be able to take him home for three hours to let him relax on a beautiful day, chewing on all kinds of bones and his favorite food before peacefully passing in the grass in the backyard he diligently protected for four years.

Legend lived a great life, always sporting the most stylish bandanas and snaggle-toothed smile and playing daily with Luna. He is greatly missed and we are forever grateful that PACC gave him three chances at life and that we were part of it.

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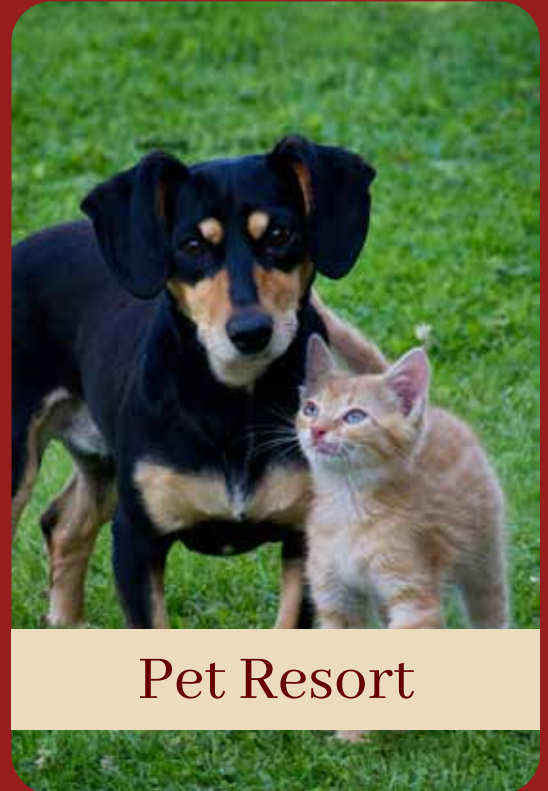
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